

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 INR-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 OES-03 PRS-01 IO-10 L-02 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 /066 R

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EB/ORF/FSE - MR. CREEKMORE

EB - MR. KATZ

S/S-O: LMATTESON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 075019

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG VE US

SUBJECT: TACTICS FOR FORTHCOMING PREPCON AND CONSUMER/
PRODUCER CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 72758 ; CARACAS 3484

1. AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY AND PRIOR TO DEPARTURE
VENEZUELAN DELEGATION FOR PREPCON, YOU SHOULD SEEK APPOINT-
MENT WITH MINISTER OF STATE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
AFFAIRS PEREZ GUERRERO OR OTHER APPROPRIATE GOV OFFICIAL
TO CONVEY OUR VIEWS AND TO DISCUSS WHAT WE SEE AS CONTRI-
BUTING TO A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE.

2. REFERRING TO SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO
COUNTRIES, NATURAL MARKET WHICH US REPRESENTS FOR
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VENEZUELAN PETROLEUM, AND FACT THAT VENEZUELA IS OUR

SINGLE LARGEST FOREIGN SOURCE OF SUPPLY FOR CRUDE PETROLEUM AND PRODUCTS COMBINED, YOU SHOULD MAKE KNOWN OUR INTEREST IN CLOSE AND COOPERATIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH VENEZUELAN DELEGATION TO PREPCON. AS INDICATED REFTTEL, US DELEGATION HEAD ROBINSON AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS WILL LOOK FORWARD TO BILATERAL MEETING WITH HEAD OF VENEZUELAN DELEGATION, AND DEPARTMENT'S DIRECTOR OF NORTH COAST AFFAIRS ARA, FRANK J. DEVINE,

WILL BE CONTINUOUSLY AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION AND LIAISON WITH VENEZUELAN THROUGHOUT PREPCON.

3. WE VIEW PARIS SESSION AS PREPARATORY TO SUBSEQUENT CONFERENCE WITH ONLY PURPOSE PREPCON BEING TO AGREE ON AGENDA AND OTHER PROCEDURAL MATTERS. WE HOPE VENEZUELAN WILL RECOGNIZE, AS WE DO, THAT ANY PREPCON ATTEMPT TO OPEN DEBATE ON BASIC SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES WILL NOT ONLY BE PREMATURE BUT WILL POSE DANGER THAT SESSION WILL BOG DOWN FRUITLESSLY.

4. PLEASE INFORM VENEZUELAN THAT AS WE SEE IT, PREPCON IS BEGINNING OF A PROCESS WHICH WILL GIVE US ANOTHER POSITIVE BASIS FOR RELATING TO EACH OTHER ON ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN. WE HOPE FOR A CONSTRUCTIVE AGENDA, RECOGNITION OF NEED FOR DIALOGUE PRIMARILY ON ENERGY MATTERS, HOLDING OF PARTICIPATION IN PRODUCER/CONSUMER CONFERENCE TO MANAGEABLE PROPORTIONS, SELECTION OF A NEUTRAL SITE FOR THE FUTURE CONFERENCE, AND AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE THAT THE CONFERENCE SHOULD BE HELD AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE BUT LEAVING ACTUAL DATE OPEN TO ENSURE THAT WE ARE ALL ADEQUATELY PREPARED.

5. DEPT HAS RECENTLY INITIATED NEW SERIES OF BILATERAL TALKS WITH VENEZUELAN HERE IN WASHINGTON. WHILE WE CERTAINLY RECOGNIZE THAT OUR POSITIONS CAN AND WILL DIVERGE ON MANY ISSUES, INCLUDING ENERGY, WE HOPE THAT NEW SPIRIT OF FRIENDLY DIALOGUE WILL CARRY OVER INTO RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR DELEGATIONS AT PREPCON AND MAY BE REFLECTED IN COOPERATION AND PROGRESS ON SIGNIFICANT POINTS PAVING WAY FOR SUCCESSFUL SUBSEQUENT CONSUMER-
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PRODUCER CONFERENCE. KISSINGER

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